



## Omni Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Beautification Program Proposal

### **Program Description:**

The Omni Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) is dedicated to revitalizing our community by enhancing the aesthetic appeal and mitigating blight across the Omni CRA district. Our Beautification Grant Program, encompassing both residential properties and business fronts, is a cornerstone effort to invigorate our neighborhood's charm and vitality. This program aims to erase blighted conditions, boost the overall attractiveness of our area, stimulate new and rejuvenating development projects, and cultivate a strong sense of pride and belonging among all stakeholders.

The Omni CRA Beautification Grant Program extends financial support to eligible residential and commercial property owners within the Omni CRA boundaries, aiding in costs associated with beautification endeavors. Eligible improvements for residences include exterior painting, minor landscaping, and certain outdoor repairs that improve the property's curb appeal. For business fronts, the program supports facade improvements, signage enhancements, and landscaping that contributes to a welcoming and vibrant commercial environment. This initiative is designed to cover expenses that are not eligible for funding from other sources or to complement grants from other programs, with a project limit of \$5,000 and \$10,000 respectively, **subject to exceptions at the Executive Director's discretion.**

To qualify, properties must be situated within the specified boundaries of the Omni CRA District. Residential properties should be owner-occupied/tenant-occupied, homesteaded, and in need of aesthetic upgrades, while commercial properties should demonstrate a clear plan for facade and street-visible improvements that align with the program's goals. All properties must be free from municipal or county liens, judgments, or encumbrances. Grant recipients are responsible for any costs that exceed the grant amount provided by the CRA. Funding is allocated based on availability and in accordance with the program's prioritized objectives.

### **Program Areas and Priorities**

The Omni CRA Beautification Grant Program aims to improve the street-visible appearance of both residential properties and business fronts within the Omni CRA district, offering support for exterior paint, minor landscaping, potentially minor outdoor home repairs, and now including graffiti removal. Despite the surge in commercial and residential development across parts of the Omni CRA's redevelopment area, certain segments within the CRA district have lagged behind, missing out on these investment benefits. Both the residential zones and business corridors

within the Omni CRA have endured issues with neglected properties, vacant lots, and unsightly graffiti, contributing to an unwelcoming environment for residents and businesses alike.

This expanded grant program reflects our commitment to revitalizing all corners of our community by addressing the aesthetic needs of both homes and commercial establishments. By making businesses eligible for the grant, alongside residential properties, we aim to foster a more vibrant, safe, and attractive community for everyone. The inclusion of graffiti removal as a covered expense underlines our dedication to beautifying the Omni CRA district, ensuring it remains a desirable place to live, work, and visit.

To address these challenges, the Omni CRA is offering the following grant programs:

**Residential Beautification Grant:**

The Omni CRA Residential Beautification Grant offers homeowners within the Omni CRA district financial support for street-visible projects like landscaping, exterior painting, and minor outdoor repairs, with a project cap of \$5,000, subject to special exceptions. This initiative addresses the challenges of property maintenance amidst construction, burglaries, and natural disasters, providing assistance for urgent repairs, infrastructure replacement, and other emergency-related costs to improve property conditions and enhance community safety and appeal. Evaluated on a rolling basis by the executive team, this grant underscores the Omni CRA's commitment to revitalizing neighborhoods, ensuring they remain vibrant and welcoming.

**Business Beautification Grant:**

The Omni CRA Business Beautification Grant aims to rejuvenate commercial fronts in the district, enhancing both aesthetics and safety. This initiative supports businesses with grants for street-visible improvements like exterior paint, landscaping, graffiti removal, and minor repairs. With a \$10,000 cap per project (exceptions at the Executive Director's discretion), the grant addresses challenges posed by infrastructure projects, burglaries, and other issues. Eligibility requires the business to be within the CRA boundaries and the proposed enhancements to significantly improve the area visually and functionally. Funds are allocated on a rolling basis, subject to funding availability and alignment with the CRA's vision for a vibrant district.

**Eligibility:**

These grants are intended for specific beautification and enhancement projects and are not intended for routine maintenance. They should be part of a larger scope of improvements to the property or area. The property should be actively used or planned for residential/business purposes.

To be eligible for the program, property owners must meet the following criteria:

- Located within the Omni Community Redevelopment Area.
- Approval from the property owner for any proposed upgrades or improvements.
- Must not have any delinquent ad valorem (Property) taxes and must be free of any municipal or county liens, judgments, or encumbrances of any kind.
- Must be a legally conforming use per the City of Miami Zoning Code.

- Must be in need of beautification or improvement

### Beautification Grant Project Procedures:

CRA= CRA Staff; CNTR = Contractor; PROP = Property Owner; TNT = Tenant

#### Application Process

CRA meets with Property Owner, verifies that the property is an eligible address, and that the property meets basic criteria for the CRA Residential Beautification Grant.

- Review property for eligibility – CRA
- Eligible scope of work and budget is prepared – CRA, PROP
- Property owner prepares application, detailing scope and budget – PROP
- BEFORE pictures are taken and delivered to CRA – PROP/CRA
- Application indicating Grant Award or Denial is sent to property owner – CRA

#### Contract Process

- Contract includes scope of work exhibit.
- Property owner secures pricing (3 bids when needed), selecting City of Miami Approved contractors (lowest bid wins) – PROP
- Property owner submits contractor list and copies of estimates to CRA – PROP
- CRA prepares contract with scope of work as exhibit (the application form) – CRA
- Contract is executed – CRA, PROP, CNTR
- Work authorization form is executed – CRA, PROP
- CRA gives 40% to the Contractor to begin the work
- CRA monitors progress – CRA/PROP

#### Project Completion

- AFTER Pictures are taken and sent to the CRA – PROP/CNTR
- Final Invoice is submitted for payment – CNTR & PROP
- CRA makes the final payment to the Contractor (payment timeline 2-4 weeks) – CRA
- Participants display signage acknowledging the Omni CRA's assistance.

### Conclusion:

In conclusion, the Omni CRA Beautification Grant Program is a vital initiative aimed at enhancing the visual appeal of residential and business properties within the Omni Community Redevelopment Area. By providing assistance for exterior paint, minor landscaping, and potential outdoor home repairs, as well as business improvements, the program aims to improve individual properties and contribute to the overall revitalization of the community. With a focus on street-visible enhancements and a commitment to supporting property owners and businesses, this program plays a crucial role in fostering a vibrant and attractive living and business environment for residents and entrepreneurs alike. Through careful planning and collaboration, we can continue to beautify our neighborhoods and create a more welcoming community for all.

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## Omni Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Residential Beautification Grant

### Application Form

The Omni CRA Beautification Grant Program offers up to \$5,000 for eligible residential property owners and tenants in the Omni CRA District to enhance curb appeal through exterior painting, landscaping, and repairs. Properties must be within the district, owner-occupied or tenant-occupied, and free of municipal or county liens. The program aims to revitalize the community by improving neglected properties. *(The program is subject to funding availability).*

|   |     |    |
|---|-----|----|
| <b><i>Applicant Name (property owner)</i></b>                               |     |    |
|   |     |    |
| <b><i>Property Address</i></b>  |     |    |
|   |     |    |
| <b><i>Address of Dwelling Being Renovated (if different from above)</i></b> |     |    |
|   |     |    |
| <b><i>City, State, Zip Code</i></b>   |     |    |
|   |     |    |
| <b><i>Phone Number</i></b>  |     |    |
|   |     |    |
| <b><i>Email Address</i></b>   |     |    |
|   |     |    |
| <b><i>Is the property owner-occupied?</i></b>                               | Yes | No |
| <b><i>Is the property homesteaded?</i></b>                                  | Yes | No |
| <b><i>Is the property tenant-occupied?</i></b>                              | Yes | No |
| <b><i>Tenant Name (if yes)</i></b>  |     |    |
| <b><i>Any municipal or county liens?</i></b>                                | Yes | No |
| <b><i>Description of Proposed Improvements:</i></b>                         |     |    |
|   |     |    |
| <b><i>Estimated Total Cost \$</i></b>                                       |     |    |
| <b><i>CRA Grant Funding Request \$</i></b>                                  |     |    |
| <b><i>Source of Other Funding and Amount (if applicable)</i></b>            |     |    |

For any questions or assistance, please contact us at 305-679-6852 or [omnicra@miamigov.com](mailto:omnicra@miamigov.com).



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|--|--|
| If applicable, name and address of the individual or entity designated by the Grantee or Owner, authorized to guide the proposed improvement and make pertinent decisions (i.e. trusted and legal tenant occupier, property agent, family member, etc.). |  |
| <i>Designee Name:</i>  |  |
| <i>Designee Address:</i>   |  |
| <i>Designee Phone Number:</i>  |  |

**Required Attachments**

- Proof of property ownership or tenancy
- Photos of the property (*Area for proposed enhancements before improvements*)

**Certification**

I certify that the information provided in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that submission of this application does not guarantee funding and that any grant received must be used solely for the purposes stated in this application. I agree to comply with all program requirements and guidelines.

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Applicant Signature |  |
| Date                |  |

**For Office Use Only**

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Application Received     |  |
| Reviewed By              |  |
| Approved/Amount Approved |  |
| Denied/Reason for Denial |  |
| <i>Notes:</i>            |  |

Please submit this completed application and all required attachments to:

**[omnicra@miamigov.com](mailto:omnicra@miamigov.com)**

**or**

**Drop off: 1401 North Miami Ave, Miami, FL 33136**